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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Taylor DATE TYPED 2-21-05 HB 932

SHORT TITLE Low-Interest Loans for Disabled SB _____

ANALYST Segura

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	\$274.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE

Estimated Revenue		Subsequent Years Impact	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06			
	\$820.9		Recurring	Technology Assistance Program

(Parenthesis () Indicate Revenue Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Public Education Department (PED)
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 932 appropriates \$274.0 for the Technology Assistance Program of the Vocational Rehabilitation division of the PED.

Significant Issues

According to DVR, the appropriation will match \$820.9 in federal funds. The federal funds will be lost if not matched by 9-30-05.

DVR indicates that rehabilitation technology allows individuals with disabilities to be more independent in their daily functions including work duties. Rehabilitation technology is a means for an individual with a disability to increase income/earning potential. A low-interest or no-interest loan helps individuals with disabilities with limited income to purchase assistive devices/rehabilitation technology.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

House Bill 932 appropriates \$274.0 in general fund for FY06 and is recurring.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation provides these services and is well equipped with the resources aligned to meet this key strategy of assisting individuals with disabilities to secure appropriate rehabilitation technology to meet the individual's needs.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

According to DVR, Rehabilitation technology can be of various forms to address issues of communication, mobility, independent functioning at home or job, computer software/hardware, visual aids and auditory aids.

RS/lg